and Udupi ends. Land acquisition proposals for a length of 7 km were submitted to the State Government and a length of 1.33 Km. at Mangalore and has been taken over by the Railway.

(c) There is no escalation in the cost of the project at this present point of time.

Discontinuation of Madras-Pondicherry Express

*7. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras-Pondicherry Express which was started in 1983 was discontinued in 1986; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to restore the Madras-Pondicherry Express in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Express train between Madras and Pondicherry, introduced on 15.12.1976, was cancelled from 1.4.1986.

(b) No, Sir.

मंडल आयोग की सिफारिशों का कियान्वयन

*8. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछड़े वर्गों के लिये नियुक्त किये गये मंडल आयोग की सिफारिशों को लागू करने में क्या कठिनाईयां हैं ; और

(ख) इन सिफारिशों को सरकार द्वारा कब तक लागू किये जाने की संभावना है ?

श्रम और कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान) : (क) तथा (ख) पिछली सरकार द्वारा मंडल आयोग की रिपोर्ट की जांच की जा रही थी। उनका मत था कि जब तक राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर मतैक्य नहीं हो जाता है, तब तक यथास्थिति बनाई रखी जानी चाहिये। सरकार, मंडल आयोग की रिपोर्ट में निहित सिफारिशों पर समुचित कार्रवाई करने के लिये प्रतिबद्ध है। यह सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanisation

*9. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Commission on Urbanisation which was set up by Government at the end of 1985 have since submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, when was the report submitted;

(c) what are the major recommendations made by the Commission;

(d) whether the report has been examined by Government if so, what are the decisions taken by Government thereon and whether the recommendations of the Commission are proposed to be incorporated in the Eighth Plan for implementation; and

(e) what are the reasons for delay in taking decisions on the report, in case the report of the Commission is still under examination?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (e) The National Commission on Urbanisation (NCU) was constituted in October, 1985 to examine the state of urbanisation in the country, identify priority action areas and formulate specific guidelines for Action Plan for managing the rapid urbanisation. It submitted its report to the Government on 19th August, 1988.

The Commission has come up with specific suggestions on a broad range of policy interventions necessary to bring about more efficient urban settlement management which could generate rapid economic growth with equity and social justice.

The Commission had made the following major recommendations:—

1. Consolidating, strengthening and expanding the economic and physical base of the 329 identified urban centres falling into 49 Spatial Priority Urbanisation on Regions.

2. Increasing the current share of 4 per cent to 8 per cent for the urban sector in the total Plan allocation.

3. Encouraging self-employment of urban poor by an appropriate credit support programme supervised by an Urban Small Business Development Bank.

4. Setting up of 4 major banking institutions to augment inflow of institutional finance for urban development.

5. Increasing the supply of serviced land and low-cost shelter, improving and upgrading slums and conserving the existing housing stock.

6. Amendment of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 in order to bring larger supply of land into market.

7. Amendment of existing Rent Control legislation to limit tenancy protection to the poor and existing tenancies and to provide for annual revision of rents.

8. Reorganisation of the existing Municipal structure and improving the financial position of the local bodies.

9. Setting up of State Government Finance Commissions for adequate devolution of resources from the State Governments to local bodies.

The report of the Commission has been examined in consultation with the State Governments, Union Ministries and Departments and also had number of Conferences and seminars of experts. Some of the suggestions made by the National Commission on Urbanisation in its report have been acted upon as on going Human Settlement Policy. These include:—

(i) The setting up of the National Housing Bank under the Reserve Bank of India.

(ii) Opening a separate Division in the HUDCO for providing funds for infrastructural development by various local bodies/State agencies.

(iii) Introduction of Nehru Rozgar Yojana as a measure of urban poverty alleviation (it is, however, proposed to recast the scheme).

(iv) Providing Urban Basic Services.

The Delhi Rent Control Act has already been amended and it has been suggested to the State Governments that they may consider similar amendments to the Rent Control laws in their states.

The recommendations made by the National Commission on Urbanisation have been considered by the Working Group on Urban Development set up by the Planning Commission in the context of the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.